

April 5, '76.

Dear Helen,

Thank you very much for your letter and your rewrite of Phra Dhammadharo's letter. Letting someone know about the kusala of others is certainly very helpful, not only for me, but also for my husband and for my mother, to whom I read your letter. I am always so glad to be reminded of kusala, and reading about it also reminds me of sati. It gives me more courage to continue. Especially when living in a country where the interest in the Dhamma is so weak and where the wrong kind of people try to 'organise' activities, it is indeed very important for me to receive news from people who have the right interest in the Dhamma and develop sati in the right way.

Dodewijk had many kusala cittas when I read your letter to him and as for my parents, it is very hard for them to listen to anything at all, but I just tried to read the letter to my mother and she really appreciated it, also the giving of food you do in the morning together with a friend. If I can only help my parents just a little to have more kusala cittas!

I would have liked to know more about the other groups of Phra Dhammadharo and I hope someone else continues them while he is away.

I think in spite of the trouble Phra Dhammadharo's parents have, his presence will still be helpful to them and I am glad for his sister Pat who is interested. It does not matter that not all corrections could be written in time and I appreciate the quick action of Khun Wichai who was so fast proofreading Book II. I appreciate all the hard work Phra Dhammadharo has done with the revisions and also your typing the corrections of the New York Letters. When there is an opportunity and some people are going to Holland I would like just a few copies of New York, about 3, and Tokyo, one more (I received others before, thank you very much). Most people in Holland do not like to read about this subject in English. And when Book II is ready, I would like also a few copies, maybe four, but this is not in a hurry. The contact person is Mrs. Mokith of our Embassy in Bangkok (at the telephone). Khun Duangduen knows her.

I was so interested to read about the new building the Abbot gave for the Dhamma Study Center and all the kusala of different people getting it ready. The Abbot understands a lot of English although he ~~speaks~~ prefers to speak Thai and I hope that he will be with the group very often.

I appreciate it that Khun Adrienne will translate Book I into French.

II.

Now I will be going to Germany just after Easter in order to see Khun Ursula for a few days. Lodewijk has to go to Paris and thus I am free to go to Germany. We will have a lot to talk about and I hope we can see many of her friends in Germany who are interested in the Dhamma. This is a happy occasion for me to have some Dhamma conversations, something I miss here in Holland. Because, if there are not the right people and if it is not the right time it is better to keep quiet.

She wrote something about Lodewijk's worries about his work: the problems certainly have to be solved with kusala cittas. I pinned up this letter above his bed and it is a reminder for him. In this way I let others help Lodewijk.

It sounds so beautiful if one says: one has to find the Dhamma in one's work. But the question should then be: which dhamma, when and where? For example: hardness, just now. I think people are disappointed that it is so common, just visible object or hardness. They would like it to be something else, so that one could just as well substitute 'faith in God' for 'Dhamma'. They do not realise that the knowledge of dhamma has to be so very precise, and that this brings detachment.

Kindest regards, and if you have time to write, I am just delighted to be reminded of kusala,